

## **Appendix C**

### **Risk Assessment Documentation**

- ✓ History of Disaster Declarations
- ✓ Snowfall History

## An Overview of Disaster Declarations

Upon the Declaration of a State of Emergency, the Governor may request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to perform a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) of the effected area. If the estimate of damage exceeds an amount that can be reasonably borne by the State, the Governor may request a Presidential Declaration of Disaster and Federal assistance.

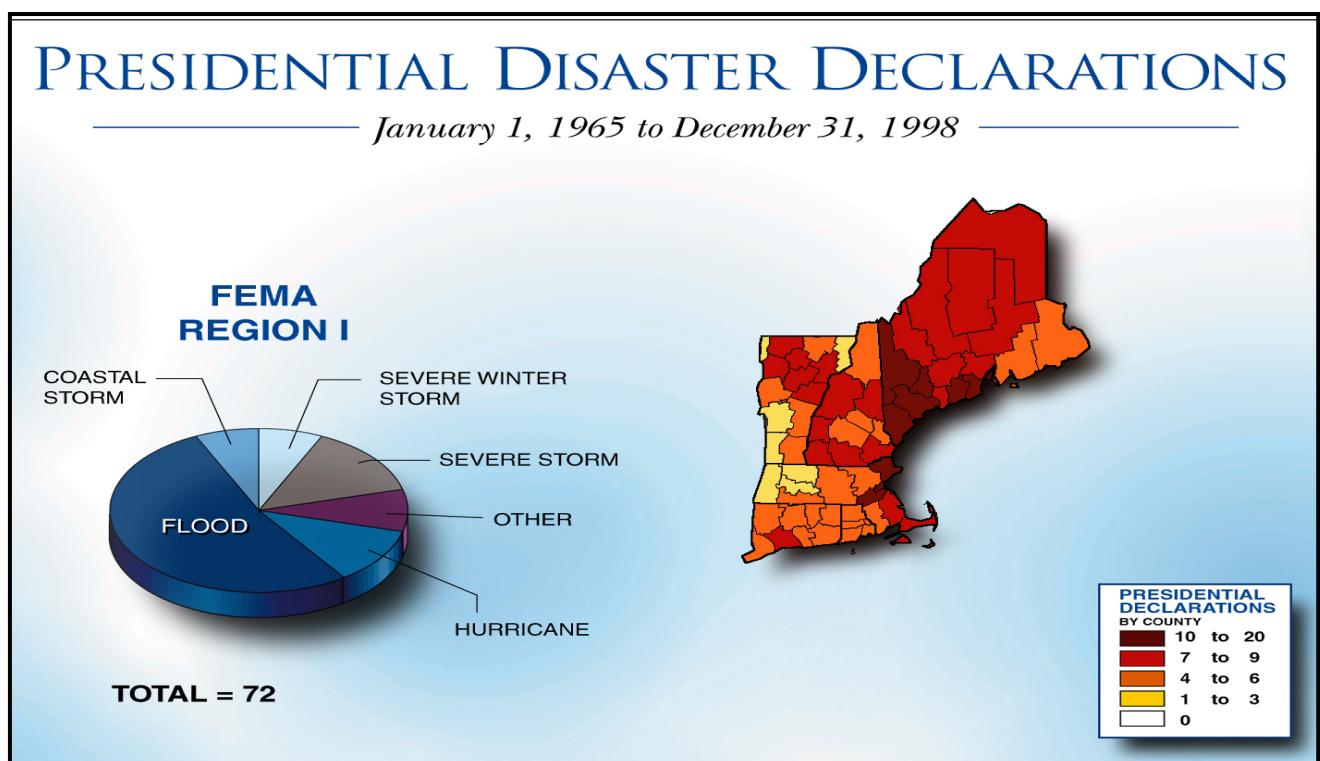
The most common Presidential Disaster Declaration type in the nation is Flood related. The same holds true for the Northeast Region of the United States and the State of New Hampshire.

Although New Hampshire is exposed to a wide variety of types of Natural Hazards, it may be surmised from the maps on the following pages of this chapter, that New Hampshire enjoys a relatively moderate overall exposure to most Natural Hazards with respect to frequency.

An analysis of the dimensions of New Hampshire's exposure to various Natural Hazards i.e., the "vulnerability" of the diverse regions of the State to these event types will be addressed below. The study of the "frequency" and "magnitude" of such events experienced in various locations throughout the State forms the basis of the planning for **Preparedness, Mitigation, Response** and **Recovery** with respect to those effects.

It is the intent of this undertaking to provide the reader with a basic understanding of those Natural Hazards, which impact the various regions throughout the State, and, to offer a systematic approach for the mitigation of the effects of such hazards.

It is hoped that officials in each NH community will take the opportunity to familiarize themselves with this Plan. Furthermore, it is hoped that each may be inspired to conduct a systematic analysis of their own unique exposure to Natural Hazards and begin the process of Hazard Mitigation Planning as well as the implementation of any cost effective Hazard Mitigation measures as may be indicated.



**14-17 February 1958**

**Event Accumulations – southeastern New Hampshire to 20” – western and central New Hampshire accumulations to 33”**

The “Blizzard of ‘58” was a widespread storm that produced snow accumulation in excess of 25 cm from Alabama to Maine. Intense cold and high winds persisted after the snow ended, prolonging the severe effects of the storm.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm; eastern Pennsylvania, western and eastern New York, southern Vermont, eastern Massachusetts, and scattered areas of New Hampshire, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Maryland.

**2-5 March 1960**

**Event Accumulations up to 25” in south central and southeastern New Hampshire**

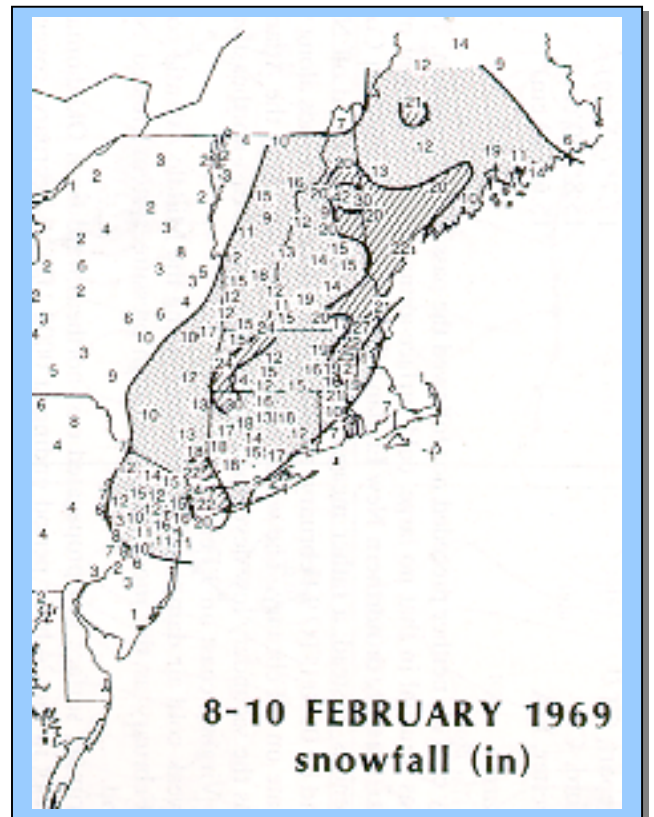
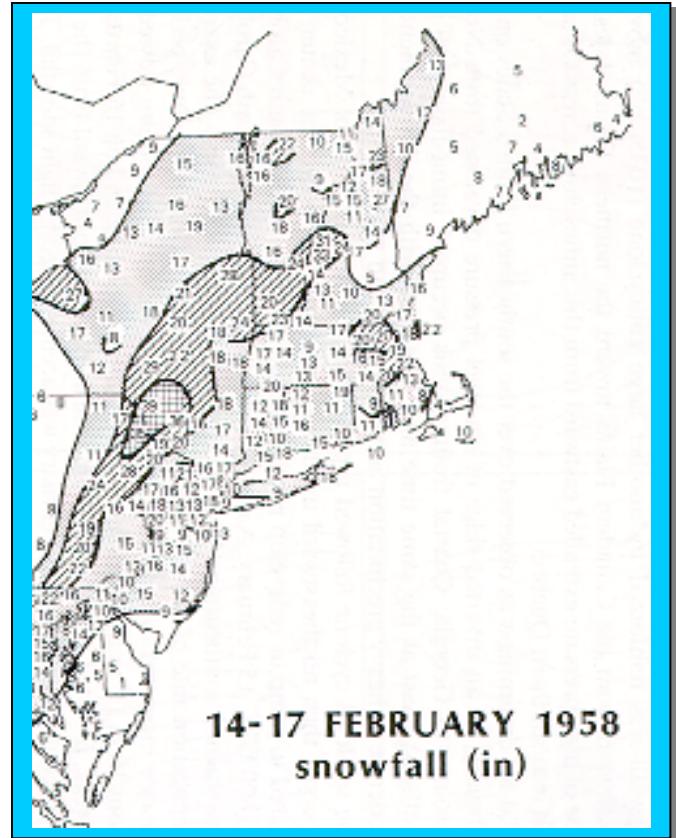
Severe blizzard conditions occurred in eastern Massachusetts, as snow accumulations exceeded 50 to 75 cm and near-hurricane force winds battered the coast.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm: eastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and scattered areas of northern New Jersey, southeastern New York, Connecticut, and New Hampshire.

**18-20 January 1961**

**Event Accumulations up to 25” in southeastern and south-central New Hampshire**

The “Kennedy Inaugural Snowstorm” was the second of three major East Coast winter storms during the 1960/1961 season. Blizzard or near-blizzard conditions developed across the northeastern United



States as the cyclone deepened rapidly offshore.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm: scattered parts of eastern Pennsylvania northern New Jersey, southeastern New York, northwestern Connecticut, northeastern Massachusetts, and southern New Hampshire.

### **8-10 February 1969**

**Event Accumulations up to 27" in southeastern New Hampshire and up to 42" in northeastern New Hampshire**

The rapid development and deceleration of the storm brought paralyzing snow and increasing winds from northern New Jersey through most of New England.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm: parts of the New York City and Boston metropolitan areas, western Connecticut, western and eastern Massachusetts, southern Vermont, northern Rhode Island, eastern New Hampshire, and southern Maine.

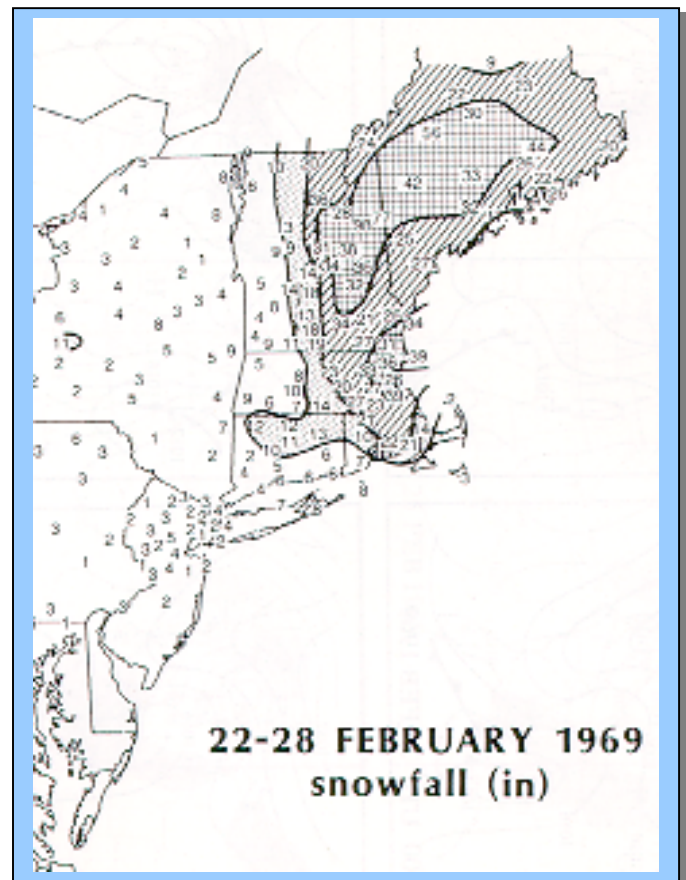
### **22-28 February 1969**

**Events Accumulations to 98" in Western Central New Hampshire, 34" in coastal areas and 2 to 3' across New Hampshire generally**

This was an unusual storm due to its slow movement, long duration, moderate intensity, erratic intensification, lack of large thermal contract at the surface, and chaotic upper-level geopotential height patterns. The storm produced excessive amounts of snow across New England with accumulations of greater than 75 cm across large sections of eastern Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine.

### **25-28 December 1969**

**Event accumulations to 41" in Western Central New Hampshire and 12-18" generally**



This storm was a near-miss for the large cities of the northeastern United States as heavy snow turned to rain (and back to snow in many areas). This system is one of the heaviest snowstorms on record for eastern and northern New York. Accumulations of greater than 50 cm covered a wide area of central and eastern New York into northwestern New England.

**5-7 February 1978****Events accumulations to 28" in northeast New Hampshire, 25" in west central New Hampshire and 33" along coastal New Hampshire**

Hurricane-force winds and record-breaking snowfall made this storm one of the more intense to occur this century across parts of the northeastern United States.

Despite accurate predictions, many people were stranded on the roads in the New York City area because the onset of heavy snow occurred slightly later than predicted during the Monday morning rush hour. People were generally skeptical of the warnings issued by operational weather forecasters following a series of inaccurate forecasts of winter weather during the preceding month. The most severely affected regions were Long Island, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, where business and schools were shut down for a week or more.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm: sections of northeastern Pennsylvania, northern New Jersey, western and southeastern New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, southern Vermont, and parts of New Hampshire and Maine.

**5-7 April 1982****Event accumulations to 22" in coastal New Hampshire and to 18" over southern and central New Hampshire**

This unusual late-season storm produced near-blizzard conditions over much of Pennsylvania, New York, and New England.

Thunderstorms with frequent lightning were reported in New York City during the heaviest snowfall. The storm was followed by one of the coldest air masses on record for April. The temperature at Boston, Massachusetts, remained near -10° during the afternoon of 7 April.

Regions with snow accumulations exceeding 50 cm: scattered portions of New York, southern Vermont, northeastern Massachusetts, and southeastern New Hampshire.